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82 Mar.

MISCELLANEA.

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I.—Scotch Vital Statistics.

"A NEW volume issued by the Registrar-General of Scotland gives the result of some inquiries upon several subjects of much interest. One among them is the fruitfulness of marriages. The usual mode of calculating is by observing the proportion of legitimate children in the year to the year's marriages; that proportion in Scotland, in the year under review, was considerably greater than in England or in France, and it is thought probable that the married Scottish women are more prolific than the English or the French. But an attempt has been made to ascertain the fruitfulness of every fruitful marriage. In Edinburgh the women who bore children in 1855 had borne altogether, upon an average, 3.7 children, and in Glasgow the proportion was 3.8; the largeness of the numbers in these cities gives the calculation a value much beyond that of any similar statistics hitherto published. So far as may be inferred from the returns at present obtained, it appears that the proportion of unfruitful marriages increases with a higher rank in life, and is probably less in Scotland than in England. Some curious facts came out in preparing the Glasgow table. One mother who was only 18 had four children, one who was 22 had seven children, and of two who were only 34, the one had thirteen and the other fourteen children; and, on the other hand, two women became mothers as late in life as 51, four at 52, and one mother was registered as having given birth to a child in the fifty-seventh year of her age. Another subject to which attention is called is the conspicuous proof upon these registers of the less waste of female life than of male; at every age, taking quinquennial periods up to 20, and then decennial, the proportional mortality among women in Scotland is less than that of men. There being no account of religious profession in the Scotch census, it is worthy of notice that in Scotland in 1856, of which the records are here furnished, out of every 100 marriages 47 were celebrated by clergymen of the Established Church of Scotland, 22 by the Free Church, 14 by the United Presbyterian (so commonly called the U. P.) Church, 9 by the Roman Catholic Church, not quite two by the Episcopal Church; and these numbers are considered roughly to indicate the proportion of population attached to each denomination. In elementary education Scotland is ahead of England; 88 per cent. of the men married and 76 per cent. of the women were able to sign the register in 1856. It is calculated that in that year, in addition to the emigration beyond the seas, a number as large—about 13,000—must have left Scotland for England and Ireland. Our northern neighbour sends us in this emigration many cool clear heads; she can boast and prove by tables and returns that brain diseases are very much less prevalent and fatal in Scotland than in England-a fact of which it would be interesting to know the cause. The inhabitants of towns in Scotland, it appears, are cut of by tubercular diseases in twice the proportion of those in the country—a circumstance which seems to favour the doctrine that they are diseases of debility and imperfect assimilation. Of the excessive mortality of towns beyond that of the rural districts, nearly half occurs among infants under five years old. Without pursuing these topics further, we must notice that the volume does not close without a word for whiskey, 'the natural drink of Scotland,' as beer is that of English. In the year of which we are speaking, liver diseases cut off the English in the proportion of 34 in every 10,000 persons, and 35 in the previous year; while the Scotch were struck down in the proportion of only 26 in the one year and 27 in the other. It is suggested that further observations should be made, and that if they have the same result Chancellors of the Exchequer should lay these things to heart, and not be so ready to favour the consumption of beer and light wines to the prejudice of that which, after all, may prove to be a better beverage."

II .- Topographical Department.

"SIR H. JAMES has presented his annual report of the important works under his care. The sale of the maps to the public last year produced above 8,000l. The year saw completed the trigonometrical survey of the United Kingdom, which was begun in 1783, under General Roy. It is comprised in seven quarto volumes. Photo-zincography is more and more proving its value; and a facsimile of 'Domesday Book' will be published county by county, or at least wherever any gentleman will guarantee to pay for fifty copies of any county. The art of photozincography, which has been discovered and applied for the purpose of making the detailed topographical plans of the kingdom, has thus led to the production of the facsimile of the most ancient survey and terrier of the kingdom, a document such as no other country in the world possesses. The publication of the edition of 1783 is said to have cost the Government 38,000l.; the types were destroyed by a fire in 1808, and copies are so expensive and so rare that few can either buy or even refer to one. But now, through this simple and inexpensive process, and by publishing in parts, any one can purchase the portion relating to the county in which he is more particularly interested, generally for 8s. or 10s., and the Government will not be put to any cost whatever. Authentic copies could be made of such documents as are required to be deposited in the public Record Office, and it is said that this would probably save an expenditure of 10,000l. a-year. The process is about to be introduced in India and in Canada. A proposition is under consideration for sending a photographer to Simancas, in Spain, to copy some of the dispatches in cypher deposited in the Royal Archives there, and which are supposed to relate to important events, some time before and after the reign of Elizabeth. A method has been discovered of producing a negative impression on paper, from which a single copy of a deed or other document can be printed on parchment in permanent ink, avoiding the necessity of transferring the negative copies to zinc or stone before It will be useful where printing. Sir H. James calls this art papyrography. a single copy of a document, or only two or three copies are wanted. Examples of it have been placed in the libraries of the Houses of Lords and Commons."

III .- Traffic in the City.

"At the present moment, when the question of the best means of relieving our crowded thoroughfares is creating considerable interest in the Court of Common Council, and in the City generally, the following return of the number of vehicles and persons ascertained to have entered the City daily, in the early part of the month of May, 1860, will, we doubt not, be of interest to our readers:—

		, , , , , , , , , , ,		
	Number of	Number of Passengers in	Number of Foot	Total Number of
	Vehicles.	Vehicles.	Passengers.	Passengers.
Aldersgate Street	2,052	4,952	21,060	26,012
Aldgate	4,978	12,548	42,574	55,122
Artillery Street	148	232	4,110	4,342
Bishopsgate ,,	3,461	19,388	34,160	53,548
Blackfriars Bridge	4,108	7,293	31,642	38,935
,, Pier	_		2,140	2,140
Blackwall RailwayBlomfield Street	719	1,260	7,032 10.052	7,032
Brook ,,	254	413	4,530	4,943
Catherine Wheel Alley		T-3	1,876	1,876
Chancery Lane	1,279	7,593	13,057	20,650
Church Street	257	375	2,530	2,905
Custom House Stairs	-	3.5	109	109
Devereux Court	_	_	4,466	4,466
Dyers' Hall Pier			1,439	1,439
Finsbury Place	3,451	11,060	27,024	38,084
Golden Lane	247 114	352	8,140 2,886	8,492
Harrow Alley	81	159	6,220	3,045 6,327
•	423			
Hatton Garden Haydon Square	262	815 456	8,332 2,333	9,147 2,789
Holborn Bars	9,060	36,094	41,610	77,704
Leather Lane	162	237	5,830	6,067
Little Moorfields		228	5,230	5,458
London Bridge	10,429	30,799	54,128	84,927
, Wharf		_	1,110	1,110
Milton Street		357	4,580	4,937
Moor Lane	2,456 140	3,571 175	18,208 6,041	21,779 6,216
	140	1/5	1 '	
Paul's Wharf	-6		1,271	1,271
Ropemaker ,,	128	172	1,630 2,436	1,636 2,608
Rosemary Lane		571	3,034	3,605
Shades Pier	-	3,7	2,500	2,500
Skinner Street	61	86	2,006	2,092
Smithfield Bars	2,439	4,012	24,830	28,842
Somerset Street		932	7,210	8,142
Stoney Lane		1,465	875	2,340
Stoney Lane	l	141	7,672	7,813
Sun Street	1,119	1,799	11,970	13,769
Swan Pier, Street	509		3,835	3,835
Temple Bar	2,159	713	4,154 36,950	4,867 50,674
Tower Stairs	2,100	13,744	197	197
Union Street		1,861	11,356	13,217
Victoria ,,	1,748	3,114	12,650	15,764
Whitecross Street		4,026	24,890	28,916
Widegate			3,620	3,620
Total	57,765	171,086	535,535	706,621
	l	1	1	1

Note.—At the time this was taken, part of the pavement was up in Fleet Street, which had the effect of bringing less vehicles into the City through Temple Bar, and more than usual through Holborn Bars.

IV .- The Coal Trade.

"THE coal trade of Northumberland and Durham, which held its annual meeting last week, has issued its report of the state of the trade during 1861. 'Nothing can demonstrate,' the report says, 'the yet healthy position of the trade more forcibly than the fact that, amid a collapse of industrious pursuits so widely extended, the demand for coal has not only not diminished, but increased. It may be true—the committee believe it to be true-that the returns of the year just ended do not equal those of 1860, but this cannot be attributed either to any great depression of prices, or to any of the ordinary drawbacks upon commercial prosperity. In fact, the prices in 1861 were only, on the average, 4d. per ton less than that of the preceding year. The average price of first-class household coal in the London market in 1861 was 19s. 5d. per ton; seconds, 17s. 2d. per ton. In 1860 the prices of first and second class coals respectively in the London market were 19s. 9d. and 17s. 6d. The rate of freights to London, on the average, exactly coincide in 1860 and 1861, being 6s. 10d. per ton. The report further states that it is now apparent in the face of the official returns of coals imported into London by sea, by railway, and by canal that those by railway are gradually increasing in a greater ratio than those by sea. The importation by sea from the northern district barely shows an increase over 1860; the total additional being only 8,384 tons; while the increase in 1861 upon coals by railway is no less than 164.957 tons. Of this increase about 63,000 tons are, however, upon coals from the county of Durham.' The following are the returns of coal shipped from the northern ports:-Tona

	Tons.
Coals sent to London up to December 31, 1861	3,373,901
,, ,, ,, ,, ,60	
1861—Increase	8,584
Coals sent coastwise up to December 31, 1861	3,031,494
,, ,, ,, ,, ,60	
1861—Increase	129,462
Coals exported up to December 31, 1861	3,959,252 3,751,740
1861—Increase	207,512
The total increase on the three branches is	345,658
For the article coke a similar increased demand is exhibited. It	is as follows :-
	Tons.
Increase on coke—	204
Sent to London up to December 31	
,, coastwise	
Exported	38,906
Total increase—Coke	48,302

Considerable anxiety has been manifested in the north this week with regard to the flooding of two collieries—the Monkwearmouth pit, in the county of Durham, and the Gosforth pit, in the county of Northumberland, by immense feeders of water breaking into the shaft. Down to Thursday night, though there had been no one injured or lost through those accidents, the rush of water into the shafts had not been entirely stopped, a large number of miners have been temporarily thrown out

of employment, and it is feared a good deal of damage will be done to those pits by the flow of water into the workings. The horses and ponies have been brought to bank."

V .- Exports of Manufactured Cotton to the East.

From the Manchester Guardian of the 14th January, 1863:-

"The following table, which we have received from an entirely reliable quarter, will enable our readers to note the progress of our exports to the chief ports of India from 1852 to 1862, both years inclusive:—

Exports to the Bay of Bengal

	Cotton Cloth.		G // T	
	Plain Packages.	Printed Packages.	Cotton Yarn.	
			lb.	
1852	92,880	4,624	16,330,967	
'53	92,966	7,596	17,661,810	
'54	143,520	6,883	18,384,329	
'55	144,832	3,813	19,379,465	
'56	140,034	9,345	17,913,512	
'57	117,524	14,333	13,511,971	
'58,	208,980	11,057	24,878,424	
'59	266,514	46,995	27,209,721	
'60	210,537	14,267	23,124,969	
'61	209,369	16,154	17,757,472	
'62	137,864	20,594	11,246,617	

Exports to Bombay.

	Cotton Cloth, Plain Packages.	Cotton Yarn.
1852	59,081 62,729 79,177 55,738 61,729 60,454 124,227 140,643 117,103 126,389 80,057	1b. 6,438,738 6,853,965 6,349,305 7,675,169 4,592,084 3,101,948 8,877,957 12,745,837 4,561,124 5,664,228 4,802,465

[&]quot;Here we see that in the four years following 1857, the average quantity of cotton cloth sent to Bombay was fully double that of the preceding four or five years; and that the average shipped to the Bay of Bengal in 1858, 1859, 1860, and 1861, exceeded by more than 60 per cent. the average of 1854, 1855, 1856, and 1857. The addition to printed calicoes and to cotton yarns was also large to that bay. The sudden and vast increase in 1858 was owing to two causes. 1. The panic of the preceding year had sunk prices here in so great a degree as to tempt merchants to expend large sums, especially in the purchase of articles for India,

whose power of absorption seemed to them unlimited. 2. The military expenditure for the suppression of the mutiny created a special demand for our manufactures in 1858, to the enrichment of the consigners. It would be natural to suppose that the wide-spread impoverishment of the peninsula by the civil war would greatly diminish the demand for calico; and such must certainly have been the case. But it will be seen that shipments went on increasing against reason; and the markets became hugely overstocked, and the prices ruinously reduced. Some time after the restoration of peace indeed, various public works were commenced, and a rise of wages set in, which led to an augmented demand for our products; but supplies were poured into the country in such superabundance as not olny prevented prices from becoming remunerative, but kept them so much below that point as to involve the certainty of such losses upon the enormous stocks in the ports as, added to previous losses, must have brought on an Eastern crisis of a very serious character if the war in America had not greatly curtailed the supplies in 1862, and given a highly remunerative value to the stocks on hand. Throughout the greater part of last year, however, but especially in the latter half of it, the shipments hence have been at prices that must ensure heavy losses to the owners, unless the stoppage of cotton from America should last long enough to save them. Prices are now about 50 per cent. above the general range for some years prior to the arrestment of the cotton supply; and this must diminish the consumption in something like an equal ratio. This consideration is not sufficiently borne in mind by those who are impatient at the little further improvement of which we are advised by each successive mail."

VI.—Note on Mr. Lumley's Paper on l'Union du Crédit de Bruxelles.

In vol. xx. of the Journal of the Society, p. 61, is printed "An Account of the Banking Establishment in Belgium, termed l'Union du Crédit de Bruxelles," read before the Society in Jan, 1857, by Mr. Lumley, one of the Honorary Secretaries. An account of the same Society, drawn up by Mr. Haeck, of Brussels, in terms much the same as those used by Mr. Lumley, appears in the volume of the "Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, for 1862." The progress of the Society is there shown to the end of 1861, six years beyond the last year referred to in Mr. Lumley's account.

VII.—Note upon a Paper on the Income Tax, in the Journal of the Statistical Society for September, 1862.

"In the Journal of this Society for September 1862, there occurs a paper by Mr. William Lucas Sargant, the title of which is 'An Undiscriminating Income Tax Reconsidered.'

"The author has referred at its commencement to various principles upon the subject which have been advocated by different writers. Again, in section x, entitled 'Strictures on Distinguished Opinions,' the author of those various opinions are cited by name.

"Mr. Sargant seems not to have been aware that the principle which he enunciates as his own view was already in print many years ago. I refer to the pamphlet, Thoughts on the Principles of Taxation, with Reference to a Property Tax and its Exceptions. By Charles Babbage, Esq., 8vo., 1849; second edition, 1851; third edition, 1852.

"At the adjourned discussion" of Mr. Sargant's paper on an Income Tax, during

^{*} Mr. Sargant was not present at the adjourned discussion.

one of the evening meetings of the Statistical Society, I stated distinctly my own views on the subject.

"Soon after the publication of my essay, during a short visit to Paris, M. Passy, the Minister of Finance, invited me to call at his office, that we might talk over the subject. I was much gratified to find that distinguished financier agreeing with me entirely in the justice of the principle and even in a great number of the details.

"Shortly after the publication of my pamphlet, the Minister of Finance to the King of Sardinia caused an Italian translation of it to be prepared and published at Turin.

"C. BABBAGE."

[It will be satisfactory to Mr. Sargant to learn that the opinion he entertains is supported by such high authority. It is necessary, however, to state that Mr. Sargant never saw, nor heard of Mr. Babbage's pamphlet.—ED. S. J.]

VIII.—The New Statistical Abstract for France.

From the Economist of the 21st February, 1863:-

- "Following the example of the English Board of Trade, the French Ministry of Commerce has just issued a 'Statistical Abstract' for France,* relating to the period of fifteen years from 1847 to 1861.
- "Leaving the facts to speak for themselves, we proceed to glance briefly at the most important points presented to notice in the French abstract, in the following order:—
 - 1. Population, Production, &c.
 - 2. Commerce. And
 - 3. Navigation.

"1. Population, Production, &c.

- "Population.—The area of France in the year 1861, was 209,420 square miles, and the total population 37,382,000 persons, giving a mean population of 179 persons to the square mile. These figures include the departments of Savoy and Nice, and consequently prevent any comparison being made with previous census returns. The increase in the population of France (exclusive of Savoy and Nice) in the decennial period between 1846 and 1856, was only 2·23 per cent. In England and Wales the increase according to the last census, was 12 per cent.; and in Scotland 6 per cent.; and the density of population was 344 persons to the square mile in England and Wales, and 98 in Scotland.
- "Distribution of the Soil of France.—Exclusive of the departments of Savoy and Nice, from which no returns have been received, the soil of France is divided as follows:—

	Pr. cnt.
Under cultivation:—	
Grain crops	28.30
Other ,,	5.00
Artificial meadows	5.00
Fallow	10.80
Natural meadows	9.50
Vineyards	4.10
Chestnuts, olives, mulberry, &c	0.30
Pasture and waste lands	13.20
Forest, water, roads, houses, and uncultivated	23,60
•	
	100,00

"Live Stock.—The total number of each kind of live stock in France (exclusive of Savoy and Nice) is estimated as follows:—

Horses	3,000,000
Asses	400,000
Mules	330,000
Horned cattle	10,094,000
Calves	4,104,000
Sheep and lambs	35,000,000
Goats and kids	1,400,000
Swine above one year	1,400,000
Sucking pigs and young wild boars	4,000,000

(Only between one-fourth and one-fifth of the total number of sheep are of the ordinary kind, the remainder being merinos or of mixed breed).

- "Wheat.—The production of wheat during the period from 1847 to 1861, varied from $23\frac{1}{3}$ million quarters in 1853 to $37\frac{3}{4}$ million quarters 1857. In 1861, the year in which the largest area was under wheat cultivation, the produce was only $25\frac{3}{4}$ million quarters. The greatest yield per acre during the period was in 1857, and the smallest in 1861.
- "It is not, perhaps, generally known, that France derives a far greater part of her supply of meat from abroad than England does, and this under the old protective system. The average importations for consumption in the years from 1856 to 1860, in the two countries were as follows:—

	United Kingdom.	France.
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	No. 90,500 213,000	No. 126,200 402,000

- "This fact is worthy the attention of the French Government, as it is well known that the adoption of free-trade principles tends to direct the attention of producers to manufactures, and the Government should loose no opportunity of stimulating the agricultural resources of the country, which will prove equally remunerative to the farmer under the new commercial system.
- "Wine.—The mean annual production of wine in France, is 1,089,000,000 gallons. Of this quantity 67 per cent. is consumed in the country, leaving 33 per cent. for exportation.
- "Silk.—The production of silk has greatly diminished of late years; the annual average production of cocoons from 1846 to 1852, was 53 million lbs., which had diminished from 1858 to 1861 to 26½ million lbs.
- "Mines.—The production of coal in 1861, was about 8 million tons; of cast iron, 856,000 tons; of wrought iron (merchant), 520,000 tons; of rails, 106,000 tons; of iron plates 69,000 tons; of iron wire 24,000 tons; and of steel, 20,000 tons. The value of these was between 18 and 19 millions sterling. The value of other metals produced was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions sterling.
- "In the period from 1847 to 1859, the average price of coal at the place of production increased 31 per cent., the average price being in 1859, 10s. 1d. per ton. The price of cast iron made by charcoal and by coal diminished by about 20 per cent. during the same period. The price of wrought iron made with charcoal diminished only 7 per cent., while that made with coal decreased by about 23 per cent. France imports annually from 5 to 6 million tons of coal from Belgium, England, and the Rhenish Provinces.

- "Salt.—The production of salt increased from 572,000 tons in 1847 to 630,000 tons in 1861.
- "Sugar.—The quantity of home made sugar entered for consumption, doubled-during the period from 1847 to 1861, being 52 million kilogrammes in the former year, and 105 millions in the latter.

"Tobacco.—The increase in the quantity of tobacco manufactured by the Government and sold in France in 1860, as compared with 1847, amounted to 10 million

kilogrammes, or 22 million lbs.

"Machinery.—Connected with the productive power of the country, as taking the place of so many able-bodied workmen, the increase in the steam motive power employed, affords some guide as to the progress of the industry of the country. In the year 1847, the total horse power of machinery so employed was only 145,807, but in 1859 it had increased to 513,092. The increase appears to have been divided generally between the various trades and manufactures of the country.

" Means of Communication .- The length of river, canal, and road communica-

tion in France, is stated as under :-

	Miles.
Rivers	5,899
Canals	
Roads of all kinds	

The tonnage of steam vessels engaged in the river navigation, increased from 21,134 tons in 1847 to 33,690 tons in 1859, the largest employment having been 51,097 tons in the year 1857. As might be expected, there was a decline in the number of passengers from 2½ millions to 1½ million, consequent upon the increased facilities of railway accommodation. There was, on the other hand, a large augmentation in the quality of goods conveyed, viz., from 880,000 tons in 1847, to 2,616,000 tons in 1850.

1859.
"Railways.—On the 31st December, 1861, 6,269 miles of railway were open in France, against 1,136 miles on the 31st December, 1847. The statistics of the number of passengers and weight of goods conveyed, only come down to the year 1859. The increase in that year over 1847, was 39½ million passengers—the total in 1859 being 52½ millions; and the increase in goods' traffic 16½ million tons—the total weight conveyed in 1859 being about 20 million tons.

"Post Office.—The number of letters sent by the post more than doubled between 1847 and 1861, being 126 millions in the former year and 274 millions in the latter. In the same year the number of printed papers transmitted by the post were 90 millions in 1847, and 189 millions in 1861. The total receipts were 1,920,000l. in 1847, and 2,440,000l. in 1861.

- "Electric Telegraphs.—In the year 1851, only 9,014 private messages were despatched, producing a receipt of 3,080*l*.; and in the year 1860, no less than 711,652 messages were sent, and 165,760*l*. received. Of the total number in 1860, 562,531 messages were used in France, and 149,121 sent to foreign countries.
- "Coinage.—The total value of gold coined in France in the period from 1847 to 1861 inclusive, was 181,693,000l., and of silver 30,235,000l.
- "Savings' Banks.—The total number of savings' banks in 1847 was 345, and the number of accounts open on the 31st December in the same year 736,591. In 1860 the number of banks increased to 433, and the accounts open to 1,218,122."